Mountain Weather Forecast

South Grampian and Southeast Highlands

Including South and East Cairngorms National Park, Aberdeenshire and Angus Hills, Ben Vrackie, Ben Lawers, Loch Tay and Ochils
Forecast valid from 06:00 on Thursday 11 Mar 2021 until 23:59 on Friday 12 Mar 2021

Forecast Issued on Thursday 11 Mar 2021 at 02:42 by Met Office Aberdeen

Confidence: High confidence for a wintery unsettled period of weather with snow falling on the ranges throughout the period and strong winds for much of the forecast period. Some uncertainty in the frequency of showers and snow accumulations.

Headline for Thursday 11 Mar 2021: Frequent snow showers with westerly gales, blizzard conditions at times on the munros.

Mountain weather hazards on Thursday 11 Mar 2021

Blizzards Medium Likelihood	**Heavy Snow** Low Likelihood	**Storm force winds** No Likelihood
Gales High Likelihood	**Severe chill effect** High Likelihood	**Poor visibility** Medium Likelihood
Thunderstorms No Likelihood	**Heavy persistent rain** No Likelihood	**Strong sunlight** No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m					
Time					
06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Light snow	Heavy snow showers	Heavy snow showers	Heavy snow showers	Heavy snow	Heavy snow
Precipitation probability					
80%	40%	40%	40%	50%	70%

Forecast for Thursday 11 Mar 2021

Weather: During the morning there will be a few bright spells particularly for more easterly ranges but frequent blustery showers will turn increasingly more wintery to lower levels. By lunchtime any showers above 400m will be of snow. A few centimetres of snow can be expected to accumulate and more for the munro tops especially in the west. Accompanied by strong winds, blizzards will be a hazard at times.

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: 30% or less, extensive low cloud associated with snow showers, perhaps more chance in the east where showers will be less frequent.

Visibility: Generally moderate or poor visibility but becoming very poor over western ranges at times in heavier snow showers or blizzards when whiteout conditions may take place. Cloud bases will generally be overcast in the west from 400m upwards, in the east there will be some cloud breaks but bases will generally be broken above 600m. Perhaps some brightness around Aberdeenshire hill tops which will be more sheltered in these conditions.

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Forecast for Thursday 11 Mar 2021

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph) Wind Direction (blowing from)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1100	44/52 W	49/58 W	44/55 W	43/54 W	45/57 SW	47/61 W	49/63 W
900	32/40 W	35/45 W	34/45 W	33/44 W	33/45 SW	35/48 W	35/49 W
600	23/36 W	25/39 W	25/42 W	24/40 W	23/41 SW	27/47 W	26/46 W
300	14/28 W	17/34 W	19/38 W	18/37 W	16/35 SW	17/36 W	18/38 W
Glen	14/30 W	14/30 W	17/35 W	18/34 W	17/35 SW	18/37 W	17/36 W

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1100	-3/-14	-4/-15	-4/-14	-4/-14	-5/-16	-4/-16	-5/-17
900	-1/-9	-2/-11	-1/-10	-2/-10	-3/-12	-2/-12	-3/-13
600	2/-5	1/-6	2/-5	1/-6	-1/-8	-1/-9	-1/-9
300	4/-0	4/-1	5/0	4/-2	2/-3	2/-4	2/-4
Glen	5/1	5/1	6/2	4/-1	3/-2	2/-3	2/-3
Freezing Level*	700m	600m	600m	500m	400m	400m	300m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Met Office Aberdeen Meteorologist's View

Snow level falling during the day with snow falling to 400m by mid morning, gusts may be 10mph stronger on the tops during heavy showers with whiteout conditions at times. Severe wind chill is likely during the day too. Extreme winter conditions on the mountains.

Forecast for Friday 12 Mar 2021

Weather: Snow showers will continue overnight, these will group together at times to be heavy and persistent but there will also be some clear spells especially for eastern ranges. During the morning there will be a few bright spells but also more blustery snow showers will continue, snow falling to around 300m. A few centimetres of snow can be expected to accumulate and more for the munro tops especially in the west. Accompanied by strong winds, blizzards will continue to be a hazard at times. Showers easing in the evening and some clear spells and a sharp frost are expected overnight.

Maximum wind: Southwesterly winds 30-35mph gusting 45-50mph easing gradually in the afternoon.

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: 40-50%, some cloud breaks will be found in the east, in the west low cloud will be broken at times.

Visibility: Visibility will be moderate or good. In the west conditions will deteriorate poor or very poor in snow showers at times, with cloud bases broken from 5-600m upwards at times, cloud is likely to break more in the afternoon. In the east there will be scattered cloud between 6-800m but the tops will be clear at times, especially around the Angus Glens and Aberdeenshire hills.

Temperature: **Glens:** Plus 1 rising to 5 Celsius.
At 800m: Minus 4 Celsius.
Freezing level: 400m

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